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August 29, 2002 Rimma N. Oks [Signature] 08-29-02  
Date Mailed Name Signature Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: John J. Schuster et al

Serial No.: 09/919,687

Filed: July 31, 2001

For: HIGH-SENSITIVITY  
TRACKING IN FREE-SPACE OPTICAL  
COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS

Docket No.: 004524.P054

Examiner: not yet assigned

Art Unit: 2878

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted in connection with the above-noted patent application, which has not yet been examined. Prior to examination, please amend the application as shown below.

In the Claims:

09/06/2002 MBIZUNES 00000124 09919687

Please add new claims 40-51 as shown below.

01 FC:103  
02 FC:102

216.00 OP  
252.00 OP

40. (New) A method, comprising:

generating a communication signal comprising a data signal with a tracking tone superimposed thereon, the tracking tone having an amplitude;

transmitting the communication signal in a free-space optical communication system along an optical signal path from a first free-space optical terminal to a second free-space optical terminal, the second free-space optical terminal including a receiver to receive an optical signal;